

03500.017423



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
:)
YUICHI SEKI, et al.)
: Group Art Unit: 2872
Application No.: 10/622,649)
:)
Filed: July 21, 2003)
:)
For: OPTICAL SCANNING APPARATUS) November 13, 2003

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. In accordance with the Deputy Commissioner's OG Notice of August 5, 2003 (1276 Off. Gaz. Pat. Off. 55), copies of the U.S. Patents are not provided. A copy of each of the Japanese document so listed is enclosed.

- (1) U.S. Patent No. 5,786,594
- (2) U.S. Patent No. 6,496,212
- (3) Japan 10-90615
- (4) Japan 10-90616
- (5) Japan 2000-180745

The Japanese references listed above are discussed in the specification at page 2, lines 1 to 22. These references might be deemed pertinent for the reasons given therein.

An English-language abstract for each of the above-listed Japanese documents has been located and is enclosed. In addition, reference (1) is believed to be an English-language counterpart to reference (4), and reference (2) is believed to be an English-language counterpart to reference (5).

Inasmuch as the subject application has not yet received a first Office Action, it is believed that this Information Disclosure Statement is timely. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3). Accordingly, the Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialing the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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